

Message Text

SECRET

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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SACLANT NORFOLK VA

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NATO SECRET FOR NATO ADDEE

FOR ADMIRAL KIDD FROM AMBASSADOR ANDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MMOL, NO

SUBJ: POL STORAGE

1. WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR 16 JULY LETTER REGARDING THE
UPCOMING VISIT TO OSLO OF YOUR CINCLANT J4, RADM RIXEY, AND
AM ANSWERING MY MESSAGE IN ORDER TO ENSURE TIMELY RESPONSE.
RADM RIXEY'S VISIT IS OF COURSE MOST WELCOME AND THE COUNTRY
TEAM WILL GLADLY ASSIST HIM IN ANY WAY DESIRED.

2. THE STORAGE OF POL IN NORWAY FOR THE STRIKFLT CERTAINLY
SEEMS A GOOD IDEA. THE PRINCIPLE OBSTACLE WE SEE IN ATTAINING
THE PROPOSED INTERIM FLOATING STORAGE IS THE COST FOR THE GON.
WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT IT WOULD COST THEM TO PROVIDE THE TANKER(S),
BUT IT WOULD SEEM THAT SOME FAVORABLE ARRANGEMENT COULD BE
REACHED IN VIEW OF EXTRAORDINARY NUMBER OF NORWEGIAN TANKERS
STASHED AROUND NORWAY AWAITING AN UPTURN IN THE ECONOMY.
HOWEVER, THE INITIAL OUTLAY FOR THEIR SHARE OF THE COST OF THE
FUEL RESERVES MAY PROVE TO BE A MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEM. AS YOU
CAN IMAGINE, THERE ARE NUMEROUS PROGRAMS COMPETING FOR
THEIR DEFENSE FUNDS, WHICH ARE ALREADY STRETCHED THIN
OVER NATO RELATED PROGRAMS SUCH AS THE F-16 CO-PRODUCTION,
ROLAND MISSILE BUY, EARLY WARNING RADAR UPDATE, ETC.
ADDNL, THEY ARE ALSO FACED WITH THE PROBABLE DEVELOPMENT
OF A COAST GUARD TO PROTECT THEIR OFF SHORE FISHERIES AND

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OIL RIG INTERESTS.

3. THIS IS NOT TO SAY THE GON DOES NOT PLACE HIGH
PRIORITY ON THEIR NATO RESPONSIBILITIES; HOWEVER, RADM
RIXEY'S VISIT SHOULD PROVIDE A BETTER PCITURE OF THE
POTENTIAL FINANCIAL PROBLEMS THEY FACE AND HOW FAR THEY
ARE PREPARED TO GO IN THIS REGARD. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF
WE CAN ASSIST RADM RIXEY. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH HIM
DURING HIS VISIT. BEST REGARDS.
ANDERS

SECRET

NNN

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